Amherst Lab Personnel

Jim Hanchett, Lab Supervisor I UMass-Lowell, B.S. Chemistry

Jim supervises the Drug Analysis Lab and covers for me when I am out.

He has worked for us for about 30 years and knows as much drug analysis as anyone that I have worked with.

Sharon Salem, Chemist III

UMass-Amherst, B.S. Chemistry

Sharon maintains our analytical instruments, runs our evidence office and keeps our personnel and purchasing records. She has worked for us about 20 years and worked previously for a pharmaceutical company. She has a good understanding of our present database; she can run queries and is familiar with its quirks. She has helped me with the design of our new system. Sharon is also experienced in all aspects of the drug analyses performed by our laboratory.

Sonja Farak, Chemist II

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, B.S. Biochemistry

Temple University, one year Ph.D. program Molecular Biology

Sonja started in the HIV Lab in 2002, she transferred to the Boston Drug Lab in 2003 and then to the Amherst Lab in 2004. Sonja is trained to use all our analytical instruments (GC, GC/MS, FTIR) and to perform all types of drug analyses. She can also cover our office to receive evidence and return it to the police.

Rebecca Pontes, Chemist II

UMass-Dartmouth, B.S. Biology

Bec started with us in 2004; previously she worked in an analytical chemistry lab in Providence, RI. Bec is trained to use all our analytical instruments (GC, GC/MS, FTIR) and to perform all types of drug analyses. She can also cover our office to receive evidence and return it to the police.